

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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DEPT PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT

SUBJECT: 7. PLUS 7 MEETING ON SUBGROUP CHAIRMANSHIPS

REF: WOLFF/KOENIG TELCON 5/8/75

1. TNC CHAIRMAN LONG HELD MEETING OF 7 PLUS 7 GROUP TODAY, SEEKING TO ARRIVE AT AGREED SETTLEMENT ON SLATE OF CHAIRMEN FOR SUBGROUPS FOR NTM AND AGRICULTURE GROUPS. LONG REFERRED TO PREVIOUS MEETINGS WHERE SLATE HAD BEEN PROPOSED FOR NTM SUBGROUPS, NOTED THAT CHADHA OF INDIA CHAIRED QR SUBGROUP, BUT THAT IN ABSENCE OF AGREED SLATE SECRETARIAT TEMPORARILY CHAIRING STANDARDS SUBGROUP. NOW THAT THERE WAS AGREEMENT TO CREATE AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS, THIS MEAN SIX CHAIRMANSHIPS MUST BE DECIDED--NTM SUBGROUPS ON STANDARDS, CUSTOMS MATTERS, SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL AND AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS ON GRAINS, MEAT, AND DAIRY.

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2. DESPITE PRODDING BY LONG, DELEGATIONS SLOW TO RESPOND. U.S. (HARTZELL) FINALLY LED OFF WITH VIEWS AS FOLLOWS, PER REFTELCON AND PREVIOUS WASHINGTON GUIDANCE: WE HOPED TO PROCEED IN SAME PRAGMATIC SPIRIT AS HAD MARKED PREVIOUS CONSULTATIONS ON CHAIRMANSHIP DECISIONS AND HOPED THAT OTHERS WOULD DO SAME. WE HAD ONLY TENTATIVE THOUGHTS AT THIS POINT, PARTICULARLY ON AGRICULTURE SUBGROUP CHAIRMENSHIPS SINCE CREATION THESE GROUPS ONLY AGREED ON PREVIOUS DAY. WE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH SLATE OF NTM SUBGROUPS CHAIRMEN PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED, WITH QUALIFICATION THAT, BECAUSE SUBGROUP ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAIL EXTREMELY SENSITIVE MATTER, THIS ARGUED AGAINST ASKING ANY NATIONAL TO DO THE JOB. (DUNKEL OF SWITZERLAND HAD BEEN MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY.) ON AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS, AS THIS SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED YET, WE THOUGHT WIDE CANVASS OF POSSIBLE CHAIRMEN SHOULD BE MADE BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF SECRETARIAT IN EFFORT TO FIND BEST MEN, PARTICULARLY ON CEREALS GROUP. REGARDING LATTER, WE THOUGHT DONOVAN OF AUSTRALIA, MINER OF CANADA AND MOORE OF UK WERE EXAMPLES OF TALENT THAT COULD BE FOUND OUTSIDE GENEVA. WE DID NOT SUBSCRIBE TO EC VIEW PUT FORWARD DAY BEFORE IN AGRICULTURE GROUP THAT THERE SHOULD BE DECISION IN PRINCIPLE FOR SECRETARIAT TO CHAIR ALL AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS.

3. EC RESPONDED BY CONFIRMING THAT IT WOULD INDEED WISH SECRETARIAT CHAIR ALL AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS, BUT THAT IT HAD NO PROBLEM WITH NATIONAL CHAIRMAN (DUNKEL) FOR SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL GROUP. IT FELT AGRICULTURE GROUPS WERE JUST AS SENSITIVE AS U.S. THOUGHT SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL GROUPS WAS. EC SUGGESTED THAT, GIVEN PREFERENCES OF BOTH SIDES, POSSIBLE SOLUTION MIGHT BE SECRETARIAT CHAIRMEN FOR ALL THREE AGRICULTURAL SUBGROUPS AND SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAIL GROUP.

4. OTHER DELEGATIONS ALMOST TOTALLY SILENT WITH EXCEPTION OF AUSTRALIA WHO SIDED WITH U.S., NIGERIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO SIDED WITH EC; AND CANADA AND JAPAN WHO WERE INDIFFERENT. RESULTING IMPASSE LED LONG TO ASK FOR DELEGATIONS TO CONSULT WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH CAPITALS TO WORK PROBLEM OUT, HOPEFULLY BY TIME OF NEXT 7 PLUS 7 MEETING WHICH HE PROPOSED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 15, 4:00 P.M.

WE UNDERSTAND PRIVATELY FROM PATTERSON THAT IF SECRETARIAT CHAIRS AGRICULTURE SUBGROUPS, HE WOULD US KRAUS FOR GRAINS GROUP AND

LUCQ FOR DAIRY AND MEAT.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON
GUIDANCE ON ACCEPTABILITY THIS SOLUTION ASAP. KOENIG

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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